

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for treating an IgE-mediated allergic disease in a patient, the method comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-CD40 monoclonal antibody or an antigen binding fragment thereof, said monoclonal antibody or fragment thereof being free of significant agonistic activity and binding to a human CD40 antigen located on the surface of a human B cell, wherein the binding of the antibody to the CD40 antigen on the surface of said B cell prevents the growth or differentiation of the B cell.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the monoclonal antibody is selected from the group consisting of 5D12 secreted by the hybridoma assigned ATCC accession number HB 11339, 3A8 secreted by the hybridoma assigned ATCC accession number HB 12024, and 3C6 secreted by the hybridoma assigned ATCC accession number HB 11340.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the monoclonal antibody is 5D12 secreted by the hybridoma assigned ATCC accession number HB 11339.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the monoclonal antibody is 3A8 secreted by the hybridoma assigned ATCC accession number HB 12024.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the monoclonal antibody is 3C6 secreted by the hybridoma having ATCC accession number HB 11340.

Claims 12-28 (Canceled)

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said antigen binding fragment of said monoclonal antibody is selected from the group consisting of Fab, F(ab)₂ and Fv.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said monoclonal antibody or said antigen binding fragment thereof is humanized.